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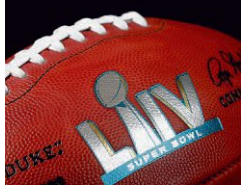
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Trump trial edges toward vote, and maybe a decision

BY LISA MASCARO, ERIC TUCKER AND ZEKE MILLER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Senate jurors peppered President Donald Trump's defenders and accusers with final questions at his impeachment trial Thursday ahead of a crucial vote on calling witnesses. The focus shifted from details of the charges to whether it was time to simply acquit Trump and conclude the trial.

The vote on witnesses, expected Friday, could lead to an abrupt end of the trial. Or, less likely, it could bring weeks of additional argument.

Thursday's testimony included soaring pleas to the senators who will decide Trump's fate, to either stop a president who Democrats said tried to cheat in the 2016 election and will again, or to shut down impeachment proceedings that Republicans insisted were never more than a partisan attack.

"Let's give the country a trial they can be proud of," said Rep. Adam Schiff, the lead prosecutor for House Democrats. Americans, he said, know what it takes for a fair trial and won't stand for anything less.

Trump attorney Eric Herschmann countered that Democrats are only prosecuting the president because they can't beat him in the 2020 election.

"We trust the American people to decide who should be our president," Herschmann said. "Enough is Enough. Stop all of this."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell was toiling to keep Friday's vote on schedule even as the trial was unearthing fresh evidence from former National Security Adviser John Bolton's

SEE TRIAL, 2A

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MIAMI, HERE WE COME

Jamie Maupin traveled with family from Shelbina, Missouri, to Miami, Florida, to celebrate all things Chiefs. Her trip included a visit Thursday to the Super Bowl Experience at the Miami Beach Convention Center, where she climbed onto a Chiefs uniform for a photograph. While Chiefs fans have started arriving in Miami for Sunday's Super Bowl, those who stayed in Kansas City have the opportunity to fire up their Chiefs pride Friday at the Red Kingdom pep rally at the Power and Light District. Gates open at 5 p.m. and the rally starts at 6 p.m. Local rap artist Tech N9ne will put on a special performance at night.

Chiefs' broadcast lineage enjoying Super Bowl week

BY BLAIR KERKHOFF
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MIAMI

The final seconds of the AFC Championship Game ticked away. The call Mitch Holthus had planned for days and — thought about for years — had arrived.

"Hail! Hail to the king of the Chiefs Kingdom forever, because today the team that Lamar Hunt founded has just won Lamar Hunt's trophy in the stadium that was Lamar Hunt's dream. Kansas City is the AFC champion! They are headed to Miami for Super Bowl LIV!"

As the voice of the Chiefs since 1994, Holthus holds a unique position in Kansas City. He's more than a broadcaster. He is the franchise's vocal conscience, conveying not only what's just occurred on the field but what it means and how it feels.

FILE

Broadcasters who have worked or currently work as the radio voice of the Chiefs include, from left, Kevin Harlan, 1985-93; Mitch Holthus, 1994-present; and Tom Hedrick, who called Super Bowls I and IV. Hedrick, 85, is the only broadcaster alive who called Super Bowl I.

He knew that his words that night, Sunday, January 19, had to hit home.

"I'm thinking, 'You've got to get 50 years in four sentences,'" Holthus said.

Holthus is the 10th lead broadcaster in the Chiefs' 60-year history. Two others are more historically associated the team than any other, Kevin Harlan and Tom Hedrick, and they continue to feel a strong bond with the team playing in its first Super Bowl since the 1969 season, when Hedrick worked with Bill Grigsby in the booth.

"You bet I was watching," Hedrick said.

And you can be sure he will watch this Super Bowl, too. So will Holthus and Harlan, working in their respective broadcast booths at Miami's Hard Rock Stadium.

MITCH HOLTHUS

His AFC Championship Game's victory call came from the heart. Holthus understands the history of the Heartland and the Chiefs' place in it.

When Lamar Hunt brought the Chiefs to Kansas City from Dallas for the 1963 AFL season, KC was already major-league with baseball's A's. But that team wasn't competitive. The Chiefs won an AFL championship during their fourth year in town.

"Lamar Hunt redefined Kansas City," Holthus, 62, said. "He could have chosen (to relocate in) Miami. He could have cho-

SEE BROADCASTERS, 2A

KC cop kills armed man in standoff

BY CORTLYNN STARK AND ROBERT A. CRONKLETON
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A Kansas City police officer fired one shot during a standoff early Thursday, ultimately killing an armed man allegedly high on illegal drugs, a police department spokesman said during a news conference.

Dozens of officers responded to the scene after a family member of the man called police and said the man had been smoking PCP for several days and had a gun, Kansas City Police Department spokesman Sgt. Jake Becchina said.

"A situation like this, we never hope for this ending," Becchina said. "We would only use deadly force in a situation where our lives or someone else's lives are in imminent danger and that was the case last night, unfortunately."

Police tried to disarm the man with less lethal beanbag rounds before the shooting, Becchina said.

The incident began about 11 p.m. Wednesday when a female family member called police and said the man was armed, under the influence of drugs and might be experiencing a mental health crisis, Becchina said.

When police arrived at the home in the 6900 block of Askew Avenue, the man ran away armed with a pistol. Becchina said one officer stayed with the woman at the home because she feared the man would try to kill her.

Police dogs and a drone unit were called in to help locate the man, who officers eventually found and surrounded in the 6800 block of Indiana Avenue. The man was found in a backyard behind a home two streets east and one block south of the original call.

A standoff ensued, and police tried to disarm the man by firing less lethal beanbag rounds at him, but

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